

(Yes)

## REVISED PROTOCOL: INITIAL RESPONSE and FOLLOW UP RESPONSE

### 1. AN INVESTIGATION REQUEST IS RECEIVED

WS specialist notifies FWP wolf specialist of request for investigation of a suspected wolf depredation. Information is exchanged, and then WS completes the investigation. Initial response by WS will be guided by the outcome of the investigation, as described below. During that initial contact, WS and FWP may also choose to discuss potential future management responses (to include additional lethal control efforts).

#### 2a. INITIAL RESPONSE -- CONFIRMED: if depredation (injured or dead livestock) is confirmed

If wolf population at end of previous calendar year is estimated to be > 15 breeding pairs statewide according to the federal recovery definition:

1. Before leaving the property or public grazing allotment where the depredation occurred and as part of the initial investigation and response, WS may take any wolves at or near the confirmed depredation site by calling / shooting without first obtaining FWP authorization.
  - January 1 to December 31
  - public or private land
  - Initial opportunity to take wolves at or near the depredation site is intended to provide WS with the greatest probability of killing the problem wolves by working near the carcass and implementing lethal control as quickly as possible.
  - FWP authorization is for the same day of the investigation and extends to any / all wolves caught overnight in traps set at or near the depredation site, with the intention of removing wolves that come back to a carcass. If more than 1 wolf is caught, WS may opt to collar/release a wolf if there is not currently a radio in the pack. Otherwise, all captured wolves may be killed.
  - Once the WS specialist leaves the depredation area after efforts to set traps or to call / shoot wolves at or near the depredation site, the initial response phase is completed when traps (if set) are checked and captured wolves are killed the next day.
  - Collared wolves that come into a depredation site should be killed similar to other wolves that respond and come into the depredation site with the goal of removing offending problem wolves, regardless of whether the wolf is collared or not
  - If 1 or more wolves are killed at the depredation site, WS lethal control efforts conclude, unless FWP requests additional lethal control as part of the follow up management response (see below). This may occur during the initial FWP-WS phone contact prior to the investigation.
  - WS specialist contacts FWP wolf specialist with an update and outcomes of the initial response within 24 hours (see next section); FWP must return calls within 24 hours.
  - WS completes an investigative report form as per usual process, noting results of the investigation and coordinates of where the livestock were killed and where the wolf or wolves were killed